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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Steffen	Art Unit: 3671
Serial No.: 09/889,183	Examiner: Addie
Filing Date: July 10, 2001	Confirmation No.: 8529
Title: <i>Soil Compactor with Power Steering</i>	Customer No.: 23598

RULE 132 DECLARATION OF MICHAEL STEFFEN

I, MICHAEL STEFFEN, the undersigned Declarant, do hereby state and declare that:

1. I am intimately familiar with the invention described and claimed in the above-identified patent application. I am the inventor of the invention described and claimed herein.
2. I am trained as an electrical engineering. I had practical semesters at a motor company where I worked on induction motor design and frequency inverters. I am also a REFA International engineer. REFA International is an association based in Germany that is one of the biggest non-governmental organizations in Europe dealing with work design, industrial engineering, and enterprise development.
3. From 1981 to 1984, I worked as a research and design engineer at a motorbike company in its test department in Munich, Germany, where I developed and qualified generators and ignition systems, suppliers, wiring harnesses, components, and such.
4. From 1984 to 1987, I was a research and design engineer at SYG (Sachs-Group) in Schweinfurt, Germany. There I developed intelligent ignition systems, speed regulators for rammers, and vehicles, and partnered with Bomag, Delmag, and Weber.
5. From 1987 to the present I have been a research and development engineer at Wacker Neuson SE (Wacker) and its predecessor incarnations, where I develop drives and electronics for rollers, plates, breakers, concrete equipment, and such. During this work, the

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development was in close partnership with the mechanical staff and engineers so that I could collect experience in all related business fields. Some of the projects I have worked on at Wacker include the development of:

- a. safety infrared-remote-controls to operate plates and rollers;
- b. engine speed regulators for two-stroke engines;
- c. tools to measure and show the degree of ground compaction for rammers and plates during compaction;
- d. systems to measure and control the exciter-position of a vibroplate during operation;
- e. steering systems by manipulating the damper behavior of the upper and lower mass of a vibroplate to each other; and
- f. remote control systems for a coupling set of vibroplates.

6. One skilled in the art would be able to use the invention as claimed from the application as filed. The documentation provided with the previous Response, filed on June 18, 2003, corroborates the knowledge of one skilled in the art. Specifically, Figure III of the technical bulletin attached to the current Response shows control of the phase relationship of the two eccentric weights on one shaft of the machine (the lower shaft in the figures) in one manner to achieve left hand steering, and Figure IV shows control of the phase relationship of those weights in another manner to achieve right hand steering. This disclosure would enable an individual to use eccentric weights for steering on a single or multiple shaft arrangement. The same type of control is disclosed in the present application when describing the operation of the preferred embodiment. (see patent application, page 2, lines 19-22 and page 3, line 23 through

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page 4, line 2). Therefore, the disclosure, coupled with the knowledge of one skilled in the art, provides more than ample information to permit one skilled in the art of vibration plates to make and use the invention without undue experimentation.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1002 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this Rule 132 Declaration is directed:

Date:

Sept. 5, 2011

Michael Steffen  
Michael Steffen

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